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TO THE INTERESTS  
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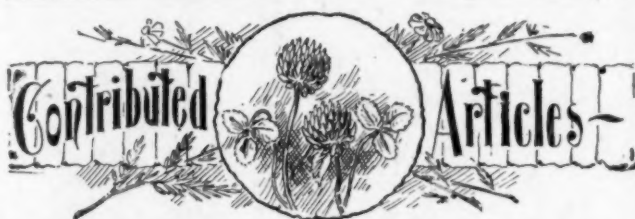
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## The Blooming of Sweet Clover.

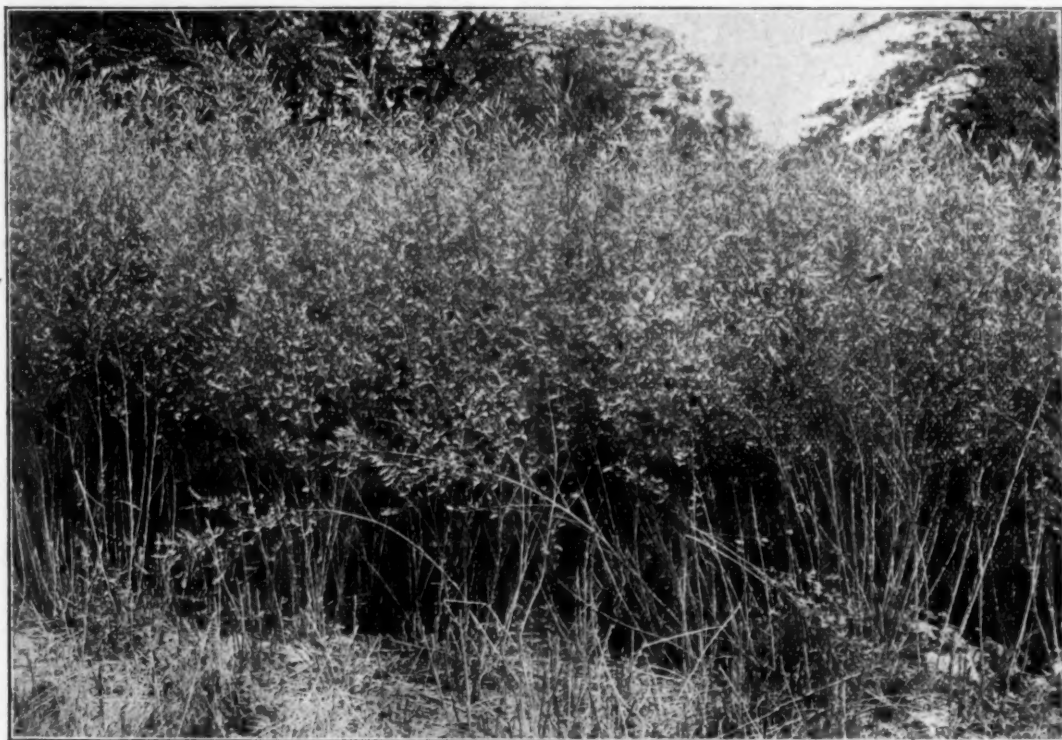
BY M. M. BALDRIDGE.

On page 807 (1895) is a brief article on sweet clover, in which the writer says:

"Sweet clover comes into bloom at or near Lemont, Ill.,

the same latitude. Lemont being near Chicago, is practically in the same latitude as St. Charles. Now, sweet clover never blooms here until the latter part of June, and often not until the forepart of July. Nor does the plant, as a rule, remain continuously in bloom here until killed by frost. The state of the weather has much to do with its duration of blooming. In seasons of drouth it may not remain in bloom longer than six to eight weeks before it matures a crop of seed. This year (1895) the crop of seed was harvested here in August, at which time there was no bloom in sight. Now if before or about this stage of its growth we have a good supply of rain, the plant will send out a new growth of leaves and branches, and a second crop of blossoms, and the blooming may then continue till winter sets in. In fact, I have seen such things happen quite often. But, after all, the main crop of honey will be secured from the first crop of blossoms.

Again this writer says: "To secure a fall crop of honey from sweet clover, cut half of it down about the middle of



A Small Plat of White Melilot Clover in Full Bloom.—See page 24.

the forepart of June, and then remains in bloom until killed by frost."

I think the writer has made a mistake, or else he has a different and an earlier-blooming variety of sweet clover than grows here where I live, or that I have ever seen elsewhere in

August, and, one week later, cut the rest of it down, and this will insure good pasturage for bees until frost."

Now as the plants sometimes ripen a crop of seed about the middle of August, it is my belief that most of the roots would die if the plants be cut at this stage. I should, there-

fore, very much prefer to cut part of the crop in June and before it blossoms. By so doing the period of blooming will be lengthened from two to four weeks. Sometimes it may do to cut the plants while in bloom—say between the middle of July and the first of August—but much depends upon the condition of the weather and the roots of the plants. If both weather and roots are just right, the latter will be able to send forth a new growth of plants.

My experience is that the roots of sweet clover are not so difficult to destroy, by cutting off the top growth when old enough to bloom, as many seem to suppose.

St. Charles, Kane Co., Ills.



### Unqueening and Requeening—How Practiced.

BY R. C. AIKIN.

On page 358 of the Bee Journal for 1895, is an article by C. H. Chapman, on dequeening. Both the editor and Mr. Chapman asked that I give an article on the subject. As it was then right in the swarming season, and when I was very busy, it was too late to get an article before the readers in time to be of benefit last year (1895). Mr. Chapman seems to understand the method pretty well, yet he is open to two or three criticisms. I will give my method, and offer criticisms in the proper connection. I will also try to point out the kind of a location in which this method would not be suitable.

Our honey-flow begins about June 15. Since I have been in Colorado, the earliest opening was the 12th, and the latest the 25th. These dates apply only to this part of the State. When the colonies were not strong enough I have sometimes delayed unqueening until the flow was on for a week or more; but experience has shown me that it is best to remove the queen right at the beginning of the flow, and more especially if the flow be abrupt and short. If the flow lasts for a number of weeks, unqueening later would mean more workers for the latter end of the flow. After 21 days from removing the queen the colony will rapidly decrease until the new queen gets brood to hatching. I try to have the hive full of brood and field-bees when the flow comes. As soon as I know that the flow has begun, I remove the queens, and at the same time look over every comb, and cut out *every* cell. (On page 406, Mr. Getaz says I cut out all but one cell at this time; but he either misquoted, or else I have blundered, for I never meant to give such advice.) If a cell be left at this time, there is no certainty about it, for there is no way to tell certainly the state of advancement—how soon it will hatch. Make thorough work, and cut out *all* cells at the removal of the queen, then there will be no swarming before the 10th or 12th day.

A queen hatches the 16th day from the laying of the egg. There is no difficulty about rearing a queen from larvæ two and three days old, or five to six days from laying the egg. If the colony begins cells the day the queen is removed, and uses a three-day larva, such queen will hatch the 10th day. Some colonies will do this very thing, while those that have not had the swarming instinct yet aroused, will be more slow, and use less advanced larvæ. Some will even start from the egg, and so will not hatch a queen till the 16th day.

Since the colonies will be all grades, from the weak to the very strong, there will necessarily be those ready to swarm, and those with no thought of swarming. The work must be arranged to make all safe between certain dates, and we arrange those dates to cover the whole apiary. I find it does not pay to have colonies of all grades of strength, but rather to unite till all that are run for surplus are made very strong in both bees and brood, and the remnants made into colonies of sufficient strength to fill their brood-chambers, and yet not trouble us about swarming. The uniting is done just as the flow is opening, and the unqueening being done, so there is no trouble about quarreling or robbing.

As each colony is made queenless—whether an original or a united colony—I cut out *all* cells. As explained in the third paragraph, we may expect some to have queens ready to hatch the 10th day, and from that clear up to the 16th day. I have reason to believe that some colonies whose swarming instinct has been fully aroused, will use a seven-day larva in their eagerness to rear a queen, and such would hatch the 9th day. The great majority will start queens three to five days from the egg, which will bring hatching queens from the 11th to the 13th days. We must then be in the apiary not later than the 10th day from unqueening. Mr. Chapman says "in seven or eight days" cut out cells. Seven days is *too soon*. The brood will not be all sealed the 7th day, and a colony hopelessly queenless will make a desperate effort to rear a queen and use the yet unsealed larva, but the result will be a worth-

less queen, and yet go with the swarm the same. This is Mr. Elwood's experience, as well as my own. I cut out cells the 8th, 9th or 10th days, as pressure of work or weather will permit. I plan to work them the 9th day, and cut out all cells, or all but one if I want to requeen from their own cells. Cells that are built when a colony is making preparation for swarming, are nearly—if not *always*—built from the egg; and if I have such from choice stock, I prefer to insert one of these when I cut out the others. It will do no harm to cut out all and leave the colony hopelessly queenless awhile, as Mr. Chapman recommends, but I cannot advise this method. Three or four days will do no harm, but if left six or seven days there is danger of laying workers beginning, and a colony *hopelessly queenless will very soon lose energy*.

I do frequently requeen by leaving one of the colony's own cells. Mr. Chapman asks if this will not give very poor queens. The quality of the queen depends very largely upon the selection of the cell. Of course, when the queen is removed there are always eggs in the hive. A colony, as before explained, will use some of the more advanced brood in the construction of cells, yet they almost invariably build some cells from the egg, too. When I cut out cells I look for the less mature cells—those that will hatch the 14th, 15th or 16th day—and so get as good queens as are furnished by the thousand by breeders, and as good as a large per cent. of those reared in natural swarming.

Mr. Chapman also says: "Allow the swarm to issue the same as in natural swarming," and cut out cells while the swarm is out. It is so easy to do the work while the hive is thus depopulated that one is tempted to do this (Mr. Chapman clips his queens, and so do I), but it requires watching for swarms that we don't want to do, and that we cannot do in two or more apiaries at one time. It also allows the colony to become excited with the swarming-fever—another thing we do not want. Aim to cut out cells the 9th day, and keep absolute control of the bees. Very few queens will begin the movements within the cell before the 9th day, and the work of the colony goes on the same; but the maturing queen soon begins to move about in the various cells, and then begins the excitement that comes with swarming. Sometimes this excitement runs so high that they will swarm before the queen hatches. Such a condition is very detrimental to the work of the colony. If there is prospect of bad weather, cut out cells the eighth day. If you plan for the 9th day, you will have the 10th and 11th to come and go on. A very few queens will hatch the 10th day, and more the 11th day. These queens usually do not leave the hive till the first—and sometimes the second—day after hatching; so waiting till the 11th day will not risk much in the loss of swarms, but is not recommended because of the excitement caused by the presence of the queen.

If you work the whole apiary in one day, and treat all alike, you may get along without numbering hives; but if the unqueening of an apiary is done at different dates, a system of numbering and recording is a necessity. As outlined in the foregoing, there is no need of failure; but the work *must not be slighted*—FIND EVERY CELL.

This article is now too lengthy to permit of details about the care of queens and making nuclei or increase; location, convenience and wishes of the apiarist enter into this. In locations having but one flow during the season, there is no question in my mind about the desirability of this method. Where there are two or more flows it may be applied by other methods.

Loveland, Colo.



### Tests for the Purity of Beeswax, Etc.

BY C. P. DADANT.

Referring to the article on beeswax, by Mr. Gregg, in a recent number of the Bee Journal, we will say that the test given—to try the purity of beeswax by chewing it—is a good one if the adulteration is quite flagrant, for most of the adulterants do not chew like beeswax, but it is a very poor grade of goods that will not crumble in the mouth. If in chewing, you can make it hold together and stretch, like chewing gum, you may be sure that there is less beeswax in the sample than anything else.

We do not know that there is any very good popular test except the above and the alcohol test. To make the alcohol test, put water in a wide-mouth bottle, and put into it a piece of pure beeswax. Then add alcohol till the wax readily falls to the bottom. You are then ready for the test. Pieces that will float are of a different specific weight. Although there are some grades of beeswax that have a lighter specific weight than others, this test is fairly safe, but one must be sure, in



testing, that there are not some air-bubbles sticking to the piece tested, as this would cause it to float even when pure.

The taste, the smell and the touch, are all good tests. Even pure beeswax, if it does not smell of bees, will not be so readily accepted as that which smells "sul generis." That is why we much prefer sun-melted wax to all other kinds; and that is why we object to the now too popular method of cleansing wax with acids. This destroys entirely the bee-smell, and makes the wax really inferior.

The Europeans, perhaps, have a better chance to adulterate beeswax without suffering for it, because their climate is much milder than ours. In this country whoever has tried to adulterate beeswax with other substances, has killed, or will kill, his trade in a very short time; for the combs will not stand in our hot climate. Even good, pure beeswax will occasionally break down, even when all built naturally by the bees, and the least adulteration will show itself in a hot season, by a general breaking down of all the combs so made.

#### PREVENTION OF HONEY-THIEVES.

Our Canadian friend, on page 779 of the Bee Journal for 1895, criticizes the "questionable propriety" of the answers given to the query on catching honey-thieves in a previous number, and gives us a method which he calls best—a house-apirary, properly locked. I, for one, cannot be convinced. The American farmer believes in his neighbor's honesty, he locks neither his door, nor his barn, and he surely will not think it will pay to lock his bee-hives. We have had from 300 to 500 hives of bees scattered through the country for years, and we do not think our total losses from thieves amount to \$5.00.

Hamilton, Ill.



### Two Laying Queens in One Hive.

BY GEO. W. WILLIAMS.

On page 776 (1895), Mr. Abbott gives an extract of a letter I wrote him some time since, and in that letter I referred to the fact of having two laying queens in one hive. He requests that I give further particulars of these two queens.

About the last of May, 1895, I found that the bees in No. 5 was not doing as well as they should, and, in looking through I found the old queen (a black one) in an enfeebled condition, and decided at once to supersede her with an Italian. At the same time I found hive No. 6 very strong, and as I wanted increase, I divided them, taking out five frames and put them into hive No. 9, filling up both hives with frames filled with comb foundation. (I use the 10-frame Langstroth hive). I was very particular to see that the queen was left in No. 6, and no queen was put into No. 9.

I then ordered two untested Italian queens, when I hunted through hive No 5 and found the old enfeebled queen, pinched her head, and introduced the yellow one. I went to hive No. 9, and found a number of queen-cells with young larvae, and, cut them all out, as I thought, introduced the queen, and on the third day I looked into both hives and found the bees had released and accepted the queens all right.

I paid but little attention to them until the 23rd day, when I again looked and found hundreds of young, bright golden Italian bees. I thought, "Now is a splendid opportunity to note the life of the worker;" and I anxiously watched both hives to see when the blacks would disappear. In hive No. 5 they had nearly all disappeared Aug. 22, and by Aug. 31 were all gone.

But in hive No. 9, up to that time, I could see no diminution of blacks, although the beautifully-marked Italians were working in great numbers. About this time I noticed the young bees of this hive having a nice play, and, upon getting up close, I noted that they were about half young blacks. My suspicions were at once aroused that there were two queens doing service in that colony. I at once determined to see, and upon looking I soon found the yellow queen, but made quite a search before I found the black one, though finally succeeded in finding her. She looked as if she felt out of place, but I assured her, as best I could, that she was welcome to stay there for the season, at least, as I found her cell away down in the corner of a frame where I had overlooked it when I introduced the Italian on June 6.

There has been—as near as I could guess—all summer about as many of one kind of bees in the hive as the other; and to-day (Dec. 8) it is nice and warm, and the bees are having a good flight, and that colony seems to be about equally divided between the blacks and yellows.

No, Mr. Abbott, there is "no mistake;" there are two queens in that hive, and both are young, laying queens. I have them tucked up nice and snug for winter, and if the

readers of the Bee Journal wish to hear any more from these "twin sisters"—yet no kin, as one is black and the other yellow—I will, in the spring, tell how they wintered.

Humansville, Mo.

[By all means, Mr. Williams, let us hear further about your interesting case, next spring. It is not every bee-keeper who can boast of an Italian and an "African" family of bees living and working peaceably together.—EDITORS.]



### The Drug Treatment of Foul Brood.

BY WM. M'EVROY.

In the American Bee Journal for Dec. 11, 1895, Dr. Miller asked Dr. Howard and myself to answer the following question:

"A bee-keeper raises the question, whether there may not be danger of attempting the cure of foul brood as given on page 591, in view of the fact that the instruction is to feed the diseased colony at a time when the bees have no other sources; and that this is one of the conditions absolutely essential to success."

If the reader will turn to page 591, he will see the old drug-method trotted to the front again. When foul brood matter in diseased colonies dries down, it settles on the lower side and bottom of the cells, and sticks there like glue. And when the bees gather honey they store it in the cells where the foul-brood matter dried down, just the same as they do in sound cells. When the disease increases, and the colony becomes weaker, the bees store more honey right in the brood-nest. Then just as soon as the sound larvæ is fed any honey that has been stored in the diseased cells, it will die of foul brood. And when larvæ is fed in cells where foul matter dried down, it will also die of foul brood.

Medicated syrup, to be of any use for curing foul brood, would have to be strong enough with drugs to kill every germ in both the diseased cells and honey. And any medicated syrup made strong enough with drugs to do that, would kill all the sound larvæ, and every bee in the colony.

Cheshire's drug treatment for curing foul brood was found to be a complete failure when thoroughly tried with foul-broody colonies in Mr. D. A. Jones' apiaries at Beeton, Ont. Mr. Henry Couse—who was, for years, foreman in Jones' bee-yards—told me that they had sprayed the diseased combs with acids so strong that the combs fairly smoked; and then it failed to cure them of foul brood.

Dr. Duncan, of Embro, Ont., is a good bee-keeper as well as a medical man, and he told me that when his colonies had foul brood, he found the drug treatment of no use; and he also said that his experience was that the foul-broody combs and diseased honey had both to be gotten away from the bees before a cure could be made.

Mr. Vankleek, of Listowel, Ont., did his best with the drug treatment, and failed to cure his colonies by it.

Mr. James Frith, of Princeton, Ont., stuck right to the Cheshire drug treatment in the hope of saving his bees, and lost the whole of his 120 colonies with foul brood. We all felt very sorry for Mr. Frith, as he was depending a good deal upon his bees. I asked Mr. Frith why he didn't try my method of curing foul brood, and he said that he had not heard of my plan at that time.

Mr. A. I. Root, of Medina, Ohio, tried the Cheshire drug treatment with his colonies when they had foul brood, and failed to cure them of the disease with it, and, when following that treatment, had the disease spread worse.

Would any bee-keeper, with a large apiary in good condition, be willing to see a neighbor keep colonies with combs in them rotten with foul brood, and then feed them at a time when bees would rob, without first destroying all the foul-broody combs? To advise the feeding of medicated syrup to colonies that have combs rotten with foul brood, and at a time when the weather is warm, and no honey for the bees to gather, is, without exception, the greatest humbug and most dangerous advice ever given.

No cure can be made by feeding medicated syrup, and to feed in warm days, when there is no honey for the bees to gather, would set the bees to robbing the foul-broody colonies, and then the disease would be spread with a vengeance.

Would it be right for a man to live in a city, and when any of his children died of small-pox, to leave them lie in bed, and keep them there; then throw a lot of medicated syrup over them, and at the same time put a lot of phenolated syrup in all the food for the rest of the family to use—then call it a

"cheap and easy cure," and with a solemn air lecture all the people on what science teaches?

Every bee-keeper should get Dr. Howard's booklet on foul brood, and read it, as it is the only book on the subject that will be of any value to any bee-keeper. Wm. McEvoy, Woodburn, Ont., Canada. Foul Brood Inspector.

[Dr. Howard's booklet can be had at this office for 25 cents; or both it and the Bee Journal for one year for only \$1.10.—EDITORS.]



### "One Bee-Keeper Selling Another's Honey."

BY B. TAYLOR.

In the November Bee-Keepers' Review I notice that our quaint friend, Mr. Hasty, has been badly hurt by several of the replies to Query 992, in the Bee Journal of Oct. 17, 1895. I remember Mr. Hasty as the inventor of the celebrated sugar-honey, and I would not hurt his tender sensibilities for anything. Our sugar-honey friend says:

A little close inspection will convince a body that not nearly all of these seven persons know what they are saying. For instance, J. M. Hambaugh says, "Yes! If your neighbor does not object." As all men object to false pretences, when the other fellow makes them, he gives himself away—happily gives himself away—to the effect that he is not a rascal, but only a little heedless. Unfortunately we cannot get all of the seven off in that way. It gives me sincere pain to quote; and I am going to leave the names off as I do so.

I congratulate Mr. Hambaugh on his accidental escape from the company of the "rascals." Mr. Hasty says he will generously leave the names of the rascals off. Dear Friend H., I fear you are unjustly kind, and I will help you to amend. The seven rascals who say that there is nothing wrong in buying honey that is in every way as good as our own product, and selling it to our customers, are: Chas. Dadant & Son, W. G. Larrabee, J. A. Green, H. D. Cutting, J. M. Jenkins, Rev. E. T. Abbott, and B. Taylor. The Dadants' reply, and my own, read as follows:

Chas. Dadant & Son—It is all right if you know the honey is good. There is no deception about it, at least none that need worry your conscience.

B. Taylor—Nothing is wrong that harms no person. If the honey is as good as your own, no one would be harmed, and it would not be wrong.

Now these two answers are held up by Mr. Hasty as the especial evidence of the genus "rascal," but I stand by my answer; it contains the substance of law and gospel honesty—not an ounce of sugar-honey in it.

Another reply reads thus:

Emerson T. Abbott—You do not need to lie to your customers. If they know you to be an honest man, they will not ask any further questions, if you tell them you are ready to stand behind all the goods you sell.

Now let me illustrate Mr. Abbott's answer: In the fall of 1894 I canvassed my former customers for orders, and booked enough to consume my small crop of basswood honey, but when I came to fill the orders I was some 50 pounds short. I went to a friend and bought 60 pounds of as nice basswood honey as any man can produce. I put it into my cans and delivered it without ever thinking of making any explanation of any kind. The labels on the cans read: "BASSWOOD HONEY. FORESTVILLE APIARY. B. TAYLOR, PROPRIETOR, Forestville, Minn." Now, will any sensible man say that there was any need of tearing the labels off, or making any kind of explanation in order to be dubbed "honest" by our sugar-honey friend?

I sell all my honey to be returned if not satisfactory, and I never had a pound returned in my 46 years of selling. I have lived and sold honey for 36 years where I now live, and none of my customers would think of asking where I got my honey, any more than they would think of each customer who paid them gold needing to prove the particular mine it came from.

Let me say here that the 60 pounds noted above is all the honey I ever bought to fill my orders with, but in the future I will buy if I need to, and will sell without changing my labels, or asking the buyers' consent. I will cure and prepare the bought honey just as I do my own; will then say to each purchaser, "This honey is first-class, and you may return it after trial if it does not give entire satisfaction."

Now, Mr. Hasty, I don't believe that when you invented the famous sugar-honey you intended any fraud or wrong. You just did not consider that it opened wide the door to fraud

and deception, and came nearer to harmful results than any proposition ever suggested to bee-keepers. Some Minnesota bee-keepers said "Rascal!" when I attempted to excuse you, but I was moved by that charity that "thinketh no evil," and reasoned most—but not all—of them out of it.

Now, Mr. Dadant never allows any but perfect foundation to go to his customers, and I never allow shoddy work of any kind to leave my shop. I never try to sell cheaper than any competitor, but the work must be first-class of its kind. And I don't believe you could get the Dadants to make fraudulent foundation at any price, for they, as well as myself, believe that honesty is more in what we do than in what we say. Yet we do not believe in talking fraud; that it is not necessary for honest people to deceive; and that none but fools tell lies.

Now, Friend H., come to think of it, does it not seem a little "Hasty" in you to hold up to the public gaze seven of your brother bee-keepers to the charge of "Rascal," without a jury trial? Forestville, Minn.



CONDUCTED BY

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.

[Questions may be mailed to the Bee Journal, or to Dr. Miller direct.]

### Preparing the Bees and Hauling Them.

In what way would you prepare bees to move overland 7 or 8 miles? Can they be moved in a common farm-wagon, coupled out and prepared to haul 30 colonies at a time?

My bees are mostly in Simplicity hives, many of them in a dilapidated condition, so that the bees can escape all around the bottom, and no cover over the top except loose boards. I have 93 colonies in this condition to be moved.

Astoria, Ills.

W. C. H.

ANSWER.—Whew! That's a job for certain—to move 93 colonies of bees in leaky hives with only loose boards on top! In the first place, the farm-wagon is all right if your roads are ordinary Illinois roads, and you practice some care in driving.

For fear I forget it, I want to tell you before I go any farther, not to think of hauling them in cold weather, at a time when there will be no likelihood of a cleansing flight for some time. The shaking up that they'd get in that 7-mile ride would do them no great harm if they could have a flight right after it, but if they should be confined several weeks it would be likely to ruin them. Better leave them till spring, and then it would be no harm to take them on a day so cold that no bee would think of flying. Two reasons for taking on a cold day: One is, that if any bees get out they'll not be so likely to stampede the horses; and another is, that there will be less danger of smothering them.

As to preparing them for hauling, I feel a little shaky about giving advice, as I never hauled just that kind of hives, and if they were my own bees I think I'd try to hunt up some one that knew more about it than I do. However, there are always good friends on the watch, and if my advice isn't the best, perhaps some of them will help us out.

Perhaps the first thing to look after is the inside—to see that the frames will not shake about in the hive and mash bees and combs. If the frames were of the fixed kind, this would not need looking after, or even common, loose-hanging frames with wooden ends of top-bars resting on flat wooden rabbets, for I constantly haul this latter kind without any preparation whatever, merely depending on the accumulation of propolis to keep the frames in place. But I wouldn't want to handle the frames before hauling, for that would break up the attachments. But your Simplicity hives probably have metal rabbets with metal-cornered frames, and they'll be dancing a jig all the way if you don't fasten them in some way.

You can fasten the frames in this way: Make some sticks about as long as the end-bars of your frames, or a little shorter. Let them be about  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch wide, and thick enough so that there will be room enough to crowd one down at each end between each two frames. Perhaps  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch or a little more will be thick enough. At least thick enough so



they make rather a snug fit. At one end of each of these sticks drive through, about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch from the end, a small wire nail an inch to an inch and a half long. Drive it far enough through so it will project through the wood as much at the point as it does at the head. This will keep the sticks from falling down between the frames, and it will make it easier to take the sticks out after hauling. It will do no particular harm if the sticks are left in a good many days after hauling.

As to the rest, the two things are to see that plenty of air can readily pass, and that no bee can get out. One could perhaps tell a little better how to accomplish this if he were right on the spot and could see the hives. I asked another bee-keeper who happened to be present how I should answer the question as to preparing and hauling those hives. The reply was: "Tell him he can't do it at all with that sort of traps. The thing can't be done." I admit it will be some trouble, still if I had those hives and wanted to haul them, I think I'd haul them.

You can give air below by means of wire-cloth arranged in some way, but as there is no good covering on top, perhaps the best thing will be to cover the entire top with a piece of wire-cloth, and then there will be no possible danger of smothering the bees. After you have everything fastened tight, then go over every spot—top, bottom, sides and ends—and look carefully for any spot a bee could get through, and stop it with a piece of rag crowded in with a jack-knife. If you see a crack that you think about half big enough for a bee to get through, don't say, "Oh, I guess it doesn't matter about such a little crack as that, no bee can get through it!" but stop it up anyhow, and be on the safe side. Unless you've been "through the mill," and have had trouble from bees getting out on the road, you'll be almost sure to leave some leak; but when you do get into trouble by it, please don't blame me for not warning you.

Have everything arranged so far as you can, so that you can quickly unhitch your team if anything happens, for I'd rather not have horses too near escaping bees. I know it is said that bees are hauled without being fastened in, and that after being smoked and jolted a little they stay right where they are; still, I think I'd rather be sure to have them fastened in the hive. And it's a pretty good thing to have a lighted smoker ready in case of emergency.

Possibly you could replace some of the worst hives with new ones before hauling.

### Transferring from Bee-Trees—Feeding in Winter

1. What is the best time to cut a bee-tree and transfer the bees to the hive?

2. Is it best to transfer the comb made in the hollow tree, or only the best of the worker-comb, and brood (if any)?

3. Is it too late to feed a colony that has not sufficient stores? I have two or three that I did not suspect of being short. (I have the Miller feeder, and can use it inside, you know.)

G. M.

Braddyville, Iowa, Dec. 10.

ANSWERS.—1. I think I should prefer to take it at the time usually preferred for transferring, that is, about the time of fruit-bloom.

2. I'd save the worker-brood and any nice, straight worker-comb.

3. Yes, it's too late to feed to the best advantage, but still I would rather try to feed now than to let a colony starve. But I'd use sugar candy for feeding, such as you've probably seen described many times. It's much better than to feed liquid feed in winter.

### Hive-Entrance in Winter—Did the Bees Freeze or Starve to Death?

To winter my bees I chaff-pack them from two to eight inches deep on the sides of the hives, and four to 12 inches deep on top. To form an entrance I cut a piece out of the box that holds the packing 5x12 inches and put a board inside between the hive and the box, letting it slant from the upper edge of the hole in the box down to one inch of the entrance of the hive. This is done to keep the packing in place, and as my hives all face the south, this allows the sun to shine in at the entrance the same as in summer.

I leave the top-boards, or covers, sealed down over the brood-chamber, and some times I put a two-inch rim under some of the hives.

Now what I wish to know is this: 1. With hives packed in chaff six inches on the sides and eight inches on top, with

sealed covers, could I close, or partially close, the entrance during cold or zero weather, and have no frost to adhere to the inside walls of the hive? I always leave the entrances wide open, which are 12 to 14 inches long, and this seems to me much like making a big fire in the stove and leaving the house-door open. Now, which way is the best? and why?

2. In Nov., 1893, a neighbor of mine put three colonies of bees into a smoke-house to winter, and as it was a poor affair the bees found no trouble in getting out of it, and thus marking the location of their home. Along in March, 1894, he removed them to an orchard, a distance of about 10 rods, and the next day the bees flew back to their location in the smoke-house, and in the evening clustered in a heap on the floor, to the extent of about a gallon. As the temperature went down somewhere between 10° and 20° below freezing, they were all dead the next morning, so my neighbor told me. He said they froze. Now Mr. Abbott would say that they starved. Please let me know what your opinion is.

Armour, Iowa.

W. S. D.

ANSWERS.—1. If your bees have wintered well, as heretofore arranged, that's a pretty good reason for continuing the same practice, or at least trying any change on a small scale at first. One reason why I should give the bees a good-sized entrance is that those who have had experience in the matter favor it. They probably favor it because upon trial they find the best success with it. To come more directly to the spirit of your question, if you close the entrance entirely, you will still find frost on the walls of the hive whenever it is so cold that the walls go below the freezing-point; for vapor is constantly being thrown off by the bees, and closing the entrance holds all the vapor in the hive, so you can see there will be more frost form on the walls than if the vapor should partly escape at the entrance.

Another thing to be remembered is, that bees keep up warmth in the hive by means of food and air. Food alone will not keep them warm—they must have air as well. You may cram all the coal you please into a stove, if you carefully shut off all air from the fire it will go out. Did you ever notice that in a crowded room you become chilly when the air becomes foul, even though the thermometer stands pretty high? So the point to strive for with your bees is to close up enough to keep the bees warm, and at the same time leave the entrance large enough, so that the foul air and vapor can escape, and enough fresh air enter to supply what oxygen the bees need. If you think your hive-entrances are more open than necessary, try a few of them closer and see how they come out in spring. If they do better than the others, then you can practice the same thing on a larger scale next winter.

2. I hardly know what to say about those bees being dead "next morning." At least I think this is true, that if your neighbor had taken the bees into a warm room they would most, or all, of them have come to life that morning. But whether they were dead, dead, the next morning or later, I should say they froze to death.

## CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS

### The Report of the Illinois State Convention.

(Continued from page 11.)

#### SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 by Pres. Smith.

It was decided to leave the time of the next annual meeting to the Executive Committee. A discussion on the Chicago meeting then followed.

Dr. Miller thought a meeting of the Illinois State Bee-Keepers' Association, if called in Chicago, would not be as well attended as would a called meeting of the Northwestern. He also thought membership was not governed by attendance.

Mr. Dadant said that the Northwestern, representing the entire Northwest, would bring a much larger attendance than the State meeting would.

Mr. Becker thought the poor honey year had more to do with the attendance than anything else.

Mr. York cited a case in Chicago of a man having six colonies of bees, who had a yield of 900 pounds of honey this year. Not a very poor year there.

The resolution which the Secretary had been instructed to prepare the day before, came up, was duly considered, and finally adopted as follows:

WHEREAS, It is the opinion of this Association, that measures should be taken to increase both membership in our Association and attendance upon the same, and thereby form an association that will be large enough to make its influence felt—as well in our legislative halls as elsewhere; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Secretary be instructed to give notice to bee-keepers throughout Illinois, that upon receipt of \$1.00 by him, the sender will be entitled to receive the American Bee Journal, of Chicago, (as the official organ of the State Association) for one year, as well as a membership in the State Bee-Keepers' Association for one year, with whatever benefits may result therefrom; including a copy of the Second Annual Report, and anything further which may follow during the time of membership.

Mr. Becker offered a resolution that the President appoint a committee of three, to ask of the Superintendent at the State Fair, that a permanent place be assigned for bees, honey, etc., all together, in one part of the building, and that they be asked to place a freight elevator in the Dome Building for the use of exhibitors. This was laid on the table.

The report of the Committee on the State Fair was read and accepted as follows:

The committee appointed to represent our interests before the State Board of Agriculture and the State Experimental Station, beg leave to report as follows:

We revised last year's premium list, offered by the State Fair Association, on bees and honey, making a list aggregating \$312, and presented the same to the State Board of Agriculture, who, in considering our petition, raised objections to allowing any premiums whatever on implements and devices of any sort, and ruled out all premiums offered upon them. The petition was then referred to the Superintendent of the Farm Products' Department—Hon. D. W. Vittum, of Canton, Ill.—who told us he could allow us about \$250 out of the amount allowed him for premiums. The committee then revised the list according to the ruling of the State Board, which revision was accepted, as was also the Code of Rules for making awards, as recommended by this Association.

Your committee were also asked to recommend a judge, capable of judging fairly, and recommended Mr. J. A. Green, whose efficient services were obtained. Our List and Rules brought at least seven exhibitors from our State, one from Indiana, and one from New York, who placed about 5,000 pounds of honey on exhibition, and made a creditable display of other articles, there being as high as 13 entries for one premium.

Supt. Vittum did all he could to increase our premium list, and assisted us in every way possible, and expressed himself as well pleased with our exhibit, hoping to be able to allow us a larger list the coming year. And in view of the importance of the pursuit in our State, and the standing of our State among the other States, we think an increase ought surely to be made.

The committee also memorialized the President of the State University—Dr. Draper—praying the establishment of an Experimental Station for bee-keepers, who referred the same to the Board of Directors, who replied by letter as previously read.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAS. A. STONE, }  
 GEO. F. ROBBINS, } *Committee.*  
 W. J. FINCH, JR., }

On motion the following committee was appointed on State Fair work: Geo. F. Robbins, Chas. Becker, and W. J. Finch, Jr.

The convention then adjourned to 1:30 p.m.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Smith.

The following resolutions by Geo. F. Robbins were read and adopted:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the bee-keepers of Illinois are due, and are hereby tendered, to the State Board of Agriculture for their liberal premium list, and for their general good treatment of bee-keepers and the apian industry.

*Resolved*, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Board at their next meeting.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was held at this time, with the following result:

President, Dr. C. C. Miller, of Marengo; Vice-Presidents—1st, J. Q. Smith, of Lincoln; 2nd, C. P. Dadant, of Hamilton; 3rd, S. N. Black, of Clayton; 4th, Mrs. L. Harrison, of Peoria; 5th, Geo. F. Robbins, of Mechanicsburg; Secretary, Jas. A. Stone, of Bradfordton; and Treasurer, A. N. Draper, of Upper Alton.

It was voted that all the money in the treasury (which is \$4.27) be paid to the Secretary for his services up to date.

The prospects for the coming year were then considered.

Mr. Robbins said that when clover is well-rooted it does not winter-kill.

Mr. York said that B. Taylor, of Minnesota, predicts a good season next year.

Mr. Dadant—I think there is no one that can tell.

Mr. Black—We cannot tell anything from the prospects a year ahead. In our part of the State we have a good prospect for the year ahead. Three or four dry years cuts out heart's-ease, etc. No man can tell a year ahead.

Dr. Miller—I think next year will be a good one. It is remarkable to have a long series of failures. The longer the failures the more likely the next will succeed.

Mr. Becker—If there is a supply of white clover in the fall, the next year is probable; but there is none in my vicinity.

Mr. Black—I know of only one honey-plant that is to be depended upon, and that is sweet clover.

Dr. Miller—I saw a large field of alfalfa, and but few bees on it.

Mr. Dadant—Alfalfa is a good honey-plant in Europe, and I don't see why it should not be here.

The Secretary—I have a small patch of alfalfa in the garden—this is the second year. I could have cut it four times, but for waiting for seed to mature. I have never seen many bees working on it at any time.

Dr. Miller—I think that alfalfa will make a good forage plant, but that is not what we are after, if it is not good for honey as well. I think the day will come when sweet clover will be used as a forage plant. I know of the stock liking it in localities where it is widely grown; and I know of a place where stock are driven by it, along the road, where they keep it eaten down. Alsike is the best clover I have ever used. It does not produce as much hay as red clover, but a finer and better quality.

Mr. Dadant—When we have abundance of white clover it does not matter about the other clovers. I think it is a help to sweet clover to cut it, as it then blooms more profusely.

Mr. Robbins—We can't depend on white clover, and we should encourage the raising of Alsike.

The Pres.—The trouble with Alsike—they pasture it too closely, and then claim it doesn't pay.

Mr. Robbins asked: "Will artificial rearing of queens breed out the swarming fever?"

The President—When the queen quits laying the swarming will end.

On the adulteration of honey, Mr. Dadant said that if honey colors tea, it is not pure. Pure honey will not tarnish tin.

Mr. York—We ought to have a law against the adulteration of honey, then something could be done to prevent it.

Mr. Becker—If we have pure honey we can always sell it.

Mr. Black—But adulterated honey destroys the taste for pure honey.

Mr. York—Bee-keepers ought to supply their customers by buying, when they cannot fill their orders from their own crop.

Mr. Dadant—Spanish-needle and smart-weed honey sell the best, because it has such a strong taste that people are sure it is honey.

The convention adjourned *sine die*.

JAS. A. STONE, *Secretary*.

**A New Binder** for holding a year's numbers of the American Bee Journal, we propose to mail, postpaid, to every subscriber who sends us 20 cents in addition to paying for his or her subscription for 1896. It is called "The Wood Binder," is patented, and is an entirely new and very simple arrangement. Full printed directions accompany each Binder. Every reader should get it, and preserve the copies of the Bee Journal as fast as they are received. Why not begin with Jan. 1 to save them? They are invaluable for reference, and at the low price of the Binder you can afford to get it yearly.

If your subscription is already paid for 1896, send 20 cents for the Binder. If any one desires two of the Binders—one for 1895 and one for 1896—send 30 cents, and they will be mailed to you.



# Southern Department

CONDUCTED BY

DR. J. P. H. BROWN, AUGUSTA, GA.

[Please send all questions relating to bee-keeping in the South direct to Dr. Brown, and he will answer in this department.—Eds.]

## Report of the International Bee-Keepers' Congress at Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 4 and 5, 1895.

This Congress was called to order on Wednesday morning by Rev. Jas. G. Teter, of Tennessee, and opened by prayer by A. I. Root, of Ohio. Upon nomination, Dr. J. P. H. Brown, of Georgia, was elected President, J. T. Calvert, of Ohio, Secretary, and A. I. Root, Vice-President.

W. S. Hart, of Florida, moved that a committee of three

or more bee-keepers prominent in each State of the United States, as Vice-President of this association, or representative of the bee-keepers of his State, to work up an organization in the interest of bee-keeping in said State.

As there was some opposition to Mr. Lowrance's motion, he withdrew it, and Mr. Frank Benton offered the following as a substitute:

*Resolved*, That this Congress proceed to effect a permanent organization under the name of "The National Bee-Keepers' Association of the United States of America," with the purpose of embracing all the States and securing representation from the several States.

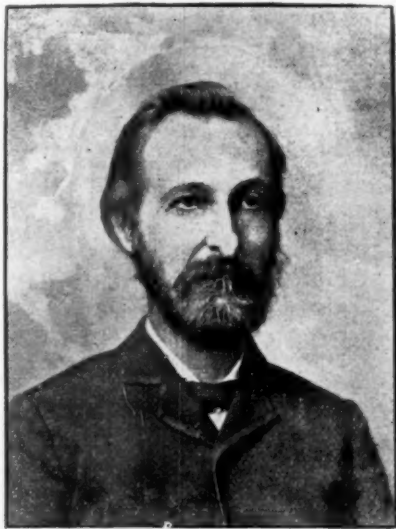
He spoke of the need of a National organization of bee-keepers for the United States, which should be representative of the whole country, and which should meet once in two or three years and discuss, not questions for beginners, but advanced apiculture.

The resolution was laid on the table, to be taken up the first thing at the morning session.

### THURSDAY MORNING SESSION, DEC. 5.

The meeting was called to order by the President, after which Rev. J. G. Teter offered prayer. The minutes of the previous session were read and approved. The resolution offered by Frank Benton was taken up and discussed.

A. I. Root and J. T. Calvert both spoke in opposition to



President Dr. J. P. H. Brown.



Vice-President A. I. Root.



Secretary J. T. Calvert.

be appointed to prepare a program. The chairman appointed Messrs. W. S. Hart, Rev. J. G. Teter, and J. T. Calvert.

Messrs. A. I. Root, O. O. Poppleton, of Florida, and J. D. Fooshe, of South Carolina, were appointed a committee on resolutions.

### SWARMING OF BEES—SOUTHERN BEE-KEEPERS.

Next in order was the reading of an essay by Chas. Dadant, of Illinois, entitled, "About Natural Swarming." [This essay has not yet been received at the Bee Journal office, but will appear later if it comes.—Eds.]

Mr. Dadant's essay gave rise to some discussion. W. S. Hart agreed in the main with the author of the essay, and said excessive heat will induce bees to swarm, as well as the conditions mentioned by Mr. Dadant. Mr. Danzenbaker, of the District of Columbia, said it was as natural for bees to swarm as for hens to sit, and other things to reproduce. J. L. Hubbard, of North Carolina, agreed with Mr. Dadant.

Questions suggested by the committee on program were read, and the following selected for discussion: "Are there no means by which the apiarists of the South may be brought more in touch with one another, so as to more fully develop the apiarian resources of the Southern States?"

Mr. Poppleton suggested that a vigorous Southern department in all the bee-papers would help this end.

W. B. Lowrance, of South Carolina, offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the chairman of this Congress appoint one

the resolution. The call for this meeting stated that it was to be an informal congress of bee-keepers; no permanent organization was contemplated; that it would not be fair to the bee-keepers not represented to go ahead hastily and form a permanent organization; and that there was no need of it, at any rate. The International could accomplish all that a national organization could, and thus save the machinery and fees of another organization.

The question was settled by the adoption of a substitute resolution offered by Mr. Poppleton, viz.: "That Dr. J. P. H. Brown, J. T. Calvert, A. I. Root and Frank Benton be requested to correspond with representative bee-keepers over the country at large in reference to the advisability of forming a national society. If the responses are favorable to such an organization, said committee are directed to call a meeting of bee-keepers at such time and place as their judgment may direct."

Mr. Calvert requested his name to be omitted from the committee, and the request was granted.

Next in order was the following essay by Mr. G. W. Demaree, of Kentucky, on

### Bee-Culture.

I have been requested by a much-esteemed friend and prominent writer and bee-culturist of the State of Georgia, and of the South, to prepare an essay to be read on this occasion, and am granted the privilege to select my own theme.

(Continued on page 25.)

# THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

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**California Industries** is to be the subject of a symposium soon to appear in the San Francisco Call. Prof. Cook is to furnish the article on Bee-Keeping. It will be an interesting and reliable contribution, surely.

**The Chicago Meeting** of the Illinois State Bee-Keepers' Association will be in session when the majority of readers of the Bee Journal receive this number. We are expecting a good time, and a large attendance on account of the 1½ fare granted by the railroad companies by reason of the National Cycle Exhibition held here this week.

**Langstroth Memorial Extracts**, mentioned last week, are found in this number of the Bee Journal. They are exceedingly interesting—so much so that our compositor who put them in type said: "Why, I'd be willing to die, if I could have such good things said of me afterward." We can add nothing more to what the various writers have said about our lamented Langstroth. We believe he deserved all, and more. Some day we trust there may be an appropriate volume published, in which shall be recorded in permanent form a just and complete account of the noble deeds and the words of wisdom of the honored Father of American apiculture—the Rev. L. L. Langstroth.

**Melilot, or Sweet Clover.**—The engraving on the first page of this number of the Bee Journal was made from a photograph showing a small plat of *Melilotus alba* in full bloom, as the plants appeared July 27, 1895, and after they had been in blossom nearly one month! This shows the immense value of melilot—the white variety—as a blooming plant, and why it is such a wonderful honey-plant. When the photograph was taken the plants were about 6 feet high, but this is simply an average growth in Northern Illinois, when they are old enough to be in full bloom. On very rich soil the plants often grow from 8 to 9 feet high.

It is through the kindness of Mr. Baldrige, that we have the pleasure of showing our readers this beautiful plat of melilot, or sweet clover. He is a great admirer of this honey-plant, so much so that he has gone to the expense of getting out several "Special Bulletins" on *Melilotus*. He will send three of them for 5 cents in stamps; and for 5 cents more he

will mail a small package of melilot seed—enough to sow a small plat of ground.

Undoubtedly, sweet clover is destined to become one of the leading honey-yielding plants in the near future. Its honey is of the finest, both in flavor and appearance, and drouths do not materially affect its growth. It seems to prosper in any part of our great country, and when farmers in general learn of its value as a hay and forage plant, they will unconsciously aid bee-keepers in placing it where the bees can revel upon it for weeks during the season of its bounteous blooming.

**Selling Another's Honey.**—On page 20 of this issue is a criticism by Mr. B. Taylor, in which he shows very clearly the correctness of our advice to buy and sell another bee-keeper's honey when your own crop is all disposed of and you have opportunity to sell more. So long as you know your bought honey is absolutely pure, and equal to your own production, there certainly can be no necessity for any explanation when offering it for sale to your customers. On this matter we think Mr. Hasty is now "straining at a gnat," while a few years ago he was "swallowing a camel" loaded high with sugar-honey.

Putting ourselves in a customer's place, and if we were buying honey of Mr. Hasty, would we care who produced the honey he sold us, so long as we had enough confidence in his honesty to feel that he would not sell anything but pure and good honey? We think that Mr. Taylor is entirely justified in his criticism, and we would urge every bee-keeper to try to keep his neighbors and customers constantly "sweetened up," even if you must buy all the honey you sell. But always, of course, be fully assured that the honey you purchase is the best and purest that can be had.

We have retailed quite a little honey the past two or three years (some of our own production, but most of it we bought), and our customers never think of questioning us about it. If they did, we should of course tell them the truth about it. Always tell the truth when you tell anything; but it isn't always necessary to say anything.

**Bees Near a Railroad.**—In response to the request made by Dr. Miller, on page 794, Hon. Geo. E. Hilton, of Fremont, Mich., says:

My home apiary is located near the railroad, and, with the observation of 16 years, I cannot see that the jarring affects the bees, although the ground shakes terribly at times.  
GEO. E. HILTON.

**Planing for Next Season.**—One of our best agricultural exchanges—the Farm and Fireside—has some very good suggestions to offer to its readers, about preparing in advance for the coming season. The writer wisely says that winter is the time to make plans and be ready to begin next spring with a set purpose in view. No one can plan a year's operations and feel certain that it is going according to his plans, but he can map out a general course to pursue, and have his thinking done in time to be ready for acting when the time for action arrives.

He who works without well-considered plans works to no purpose, and wastes precious time repairing mistakes. If the work of a season is considered beforehand, it can be accomplished easily and without friction, and much of worry and bother will be dispensed with. An old farmer once said that he did a great deal of his work while sitting in his arm-chair. He meant that he planned his work carefully, and was ready to do everything in time, and promptly. That man's tools are always ready for use when they are needed; everything is in good repair all the time, because he does every bit of work at the proper time, and does not allow it to get ahead of him. Every one knows how hard it is to catch up when one gets a



little behind his work; and how much easier it seems when we are able to do to-day what must be done not later than to-morrow.

Delays in any kind of work on the farm or in the apiary are not only dangerous, but very often they are the cause of great loss. One day late may mean a great loss at planting-time, or its damage or ruin at harvest-time.

If the farmer or bee-keeper makes it a rule to do everything on time, or a little before it is absolutely necessary that it be done, and losses come to him from wind or weather, he has no reason to blame himself, as he has done all that he could.

The influence of farm and bee papers cannot be over-estimated. It is a rule that will apply to any community, that the man who reads the papers and acts according to the advice given in them, is the more intelligent and prosperous than the man who does not read. It is because of their reading, that farmers and bee-keepers of certain States and Provinces have a wide reputation for intelligence and progressiveness.

It will be a good idea to begin the new year with a determination to so manage your business as to always have the upper hand, no matter what may happen. Think the whole matter over this winter, while you have time, and lay your plans for next season's campaign. Have enough provisos in reserve so that in case the unexpected or unfavorable should occur, you will not be at a loss how to proceed. No good general ever goes into a battle without a well-defined plan, and neither should the bee-keeper or farmer. Circumstances may change some of the details, but the main plan can generally be carried out.

Why not try this year to do a little better than we have heretofore; to give the bees better attention; to put up the honey (if we have any) in a more attractive condition; to make our homes and surroundings more inviting and comfortable; to treat our friends and neighbors a little better; to be more cheerful and good-natured; and to make those who live with us think we are the very best people in the world.

**The Wisconsin Convention.**—The twelfth annual meeting of the State Bee-Keepers' Association will take place at Madison, in the capitol, Feb. 6 and 7, 1896. The following is the splendid feast as arranged:

President's Address—F. Wilcox.  
Advantages in Location—H. Lathrop.  
Sweet Clover as a Honey-Plant—J. J. Ochsner.  
Size of Brood-Chamber—C. A. Hatch.  
Production and Sale of Comb Honey—F. Murray.  
Production and Sale of Extracted Honey—J. Hoffman.  
House-Apiaries—B. Taylor, of Forestville, Minn. (Mr. Taylor will be there to read his essay.)  
Benefits of a Foul Brood Law—N. E. France.  
Commission Men—L. M. Willis and S. T. Fish & Co.  
The free for all question-box is always interesting.

As other State societies are in session the same week, all are enabled to get excursion-rates on all railroads, if you get full-fare certificate wherever tickets are purchased. It will pay you to attend, if at all possible.

Mr. N. E. France, of Platteville, Wis., is the Secretary.

**About New Bee-Papers—Well Put.**—In the December Rural Californian we find this wise paragraph from Prof. Cook:

There are now seven or eight bee-journals published in the United States, and rumor has it that another is to be born at an early day in Southern California. Malthus' law applies to bee-journals with a vengeance. Would it not be better to make the journals now in the field better, rather than to start others to be poorly nourished, to languish and die prematurely? This has been the history of scores of journals, though occasionally one comes to stay, which proves that it has a place in our bee-literature.

## International Bee-Keepers' Congress.

[Continued from page 23.]

That theme is "BEE-CULTURE." I want to speak of several questions under this head.

We live in a time of a most dangerous state of "unrest" among the people, the foundation of which is undoubtedly a "falling away" from *self-reliance* and Christian honesty, and this has precipitated the "war between labor and capital." The cause is mistaken for the effect. Is there no remedy for this menacing state of things? Perhaps yes, and may be no, for the prophets tell us of a "day" (a time) that will admit of no remedy—no patching up, and that time is pointed out as the concluding years of this age or dispensation. Nevertheless, whatever may be the time now, written with invisible fingers on the chronological dial of the age, it is our duty to meet and deal with things "as they are," and as we find them in the world, and one of these conditions is, *increasing competition*, that makes it harder for the laboring man or woman to live now than ever before. Hence, if the coming together of this apicultural congress can help to introduce a new and fairly remunerative occupation among our rural people, they will have done a good and lasting work.

The South is the home of the honey-bee. The apiary can be operated in the South with less labor and with more certainty in general results than anywhere else in North America. And yet our people are slow to reap these advantages. We have blindly "despised small things," though they may aggregate millions.

It is a fact that might be practically demonstrated, that millions worth of precious nectar—that costs nothing in human labor, and relieves Nature of her surplus without impoverishing—goes to waste every year, because there are so few bees, under the management of skilled apiarists, to gather and store it. Let the most observing among men walk in the fields in "blooming season," and notice the tiny flowers at his feet, and in the trees and shrubbery about him, and if not an apiarist, he sees no wealth in them all, only as his *sentiment* comes to his relief, and enables him to say, "It is a wealth of beauty!" But let a practical apiarist occupy these same fields with his bees, and he will see more than the other—he will see wealth in beauty, and wealth in realization.

I am not carried away by mere sentiment, when I say that no rural pursuit is more pleasing to the senses, more soothing to the natural fatigue of labor, and more profitable in proportion to the amount of capital employed, than is the usually called "little business" of honey-producing. I might illustrate this with practical facts. With 50 colonies of bees, and two months' labor on my part—no inconsiderable part of which was light work—I have cleared as much as \$450. Of course, in bee-culture, this means a whole season's occupancy. Other seasons I have cleared much less.

Bee-culture, as pertains to the production of honey, depends as much for successful output upon *weather conditions*, and perhaps more, than other agricultural pursuits. This fact has done much to make bee-culture a drag. The beginner in bee-culture cannot endure bad seasons at the start. The fact is, no man or woman can succeed in the business of producing honey for the markets by the application of *mere drudgery and toil*. There is something else essentially necessary, and that is some sort of enthusiasm or fascination for the business of keeping bees. This may be a natural love for the study of entomology, or some sort of fascination for the peculiar manipulations that are necessary to the modern management of bees. This fact makes it improbable that the production of honey will ever be overdone. But there are no inconsiderable number of men and women who possess the necessary qualifications for apiary work (if the facts were discovered to them), and this should be one of the aims of associated efforts.

There is no better way to meet sharp "competition" for "bread" than by enlarged occupation—"verified labor." The apiary will help in this direction.

It has occurred to me that there is but the *one* product of the earth that is truly a warming, nourishing food for man, pre-eminently delicious to the palate, that springs into perfection, in its season, by the touch of an unseen hand, and disappears as quickly if not utilized by bees. That product is *honey!*—the synonym of all that is sweet and good in the earth.

May the same unseen hand touch our lives into sweetness down to the end, which shall be but the beginning—everlasting!

G. W. DEMAREE.

The questions of evaporating unripe honey, and "how to best educate the Southern dealers and consumers as to the

properties and virtues of honey," were taken up and discussed.

W. S. Hart thought that his honey, that was evaporated by the sun, was fully equal to that of other bee-keepers, and, judging from the samples of his honey that were exhibited, the evidence was very conclusive. It was the general opinion of those present that all honey-packages should be nicely labeled, and leaflets attached, giving the properties and virtues of pure honey.

The next question was: "Is it practicable to introduce instruction in bee-culture into our common schools?"

Frank Benton stated that entomology was taught in Washington schools. Mrs. Harrison said that Natural History in the Peoria, Ill., schools included a study of bees.

#### BEE-DISEASES AND THEIR TREATMENT.

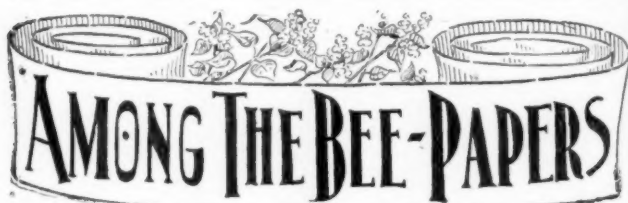
"What experience have you had in bee-diseases, and how have you treated them?" was asked.

Mr. Poppleton said that he thought he had lost 10,000 pounds of honey from damage to his colonies by bee-paralysis. Others present considered it of minor consequence. The general opinion was that no remedy yet proposed hit all cases.

A. F. Brown said that foul brood had made its appearance in Florida, and that he had lost 288 colonies. He treated ten, but failed, and finally burned the lot.

J. J. Keith, of Georgia, said he had cured foul brood by fumigating the colony with pitch-pine.

(Continued next week.)



#### The Rev. L. L. Langstroth Memorial.

Gleanings for Dec. 15, is a Langstroth number, a dozen pages being filled by leading men from both sides of the Atlantic, with tributes of well-deserved praise to the man we all delight to honor. Some extracts follow:

##### LANGSTROTH'S INVENTION—THE MOVABLE FRAME.

Langstroth's name is closely connected with his invention, and this has certainly placed bee-keeping upon an entirely different footing to what it occupied before the advent of the frame hive. There has been a great deal of controversy as to who was the original inventor of the frame principle. It was not till 1851 that Langstroth invented his hive, and frames had already been in use some years previously. They were, however, not of any practical utility, for the hives containing them were complicated, or so exceedingly expensive that they could be looked upon only as luxuries for rich amateurs rather than hives to be used by bee-keepers for business purposes.

It was not till 1851 that Langstroth invented his frame hive, which, from its simplicity, cheapness, and practical adaptability to the purposes required, has conferred a lasting boon on bee-keeping. There are no doubt some who think other methods are quite as good; but a very large and daily increasing number of bee-keepers on this continent of Europe recognize that the principle introduced by Langstroth—and first published by him in 1852, in his book on the honey-bee—is the correct one. The opening of the hive at the top, the perfect interchangeability of the movable combs, and the lateral movement of the frames, have given the bee-keeper the most perfect control over his bees, and have more than justified Langstroth's expectations when he wrote the note in his diary in 1851, that, "The use of these frames will, I am persuaded, give a new impetus to the easy and profitable management of bees."

There are not many bee-keepers of the present day who can look back 40 years or who know how Mr. Langstroth was treated, even by those who were quick to perceive the advantages to be derived from his invention; or how they pilfered his best ideas, and even patented them, and how he was defrauded of his just dues. Nor do they know that these infringements of his rights led to costly litigation which swallowed up all his well-merited gains. As one of your own writers (Prof. Cook) has written in Gleanings: "This whole mat-

ter is the dark page in American bee-keeping history, and we gladly pass it by without further comment."—THOS. WM. COWAN, editor of the British Bee Journal.

##### LANGSTROTH REVERED THE WORLD OVER.

The name of Langstroth is known and revered, not alone in North America, but in France, Switzerland, Belgium, Italy,



Rev. L. L. Langstroth in His 82nd Year.

and even in Russia, where the French edition of "Langstroth Revised" has been translated into Russian, in which language it has reached its second edition. Many apiculturists having described the qualities of our lamented friend, it suffices me to say that my son and I are happy to have been deemed capable by him to put his book—which was so far in advance of the



times at the date of its first publication—abreast with all that has been achieved since; and above all, to have succeeded in spreading its renown in all countries where the English language is known, and where he is considered, as well as in the United States, as a superior man, distinguished for his intelligence, his knowledge, his disinterested and unceasing work directed toward apicultural progress, to which he had devoted his life.—CHARLES DADANT.

#### A GERMAN ESTIMATE.

And now let me say right here, Langstroth was one of those bee-keepers to whom is due a place in the front ranks of bee-keepers the world over. He is, of course, the Dzierzon and Huber of America. His invention of a most practical bee-hive has, especially in America, raised bee-keeping to a very high degree. If I am not wrong, Mr. Langstroth gave his hive to the public in 1852, seven years later than Dr. Dzierzon did his movable-comb hive; but there is no doubt that Mr. Langstroth made his invention without knowing anything concerning what Mr. Dzierzon was doing; otherwise such a Christian man as Mr. Langstroth has always shown himself to be, both in his public and private life, and in his masterpiece, "The Hive and the Honey-bee," would have given honor to whom honor was due. The difference between his hive and that of Dzierzon proved that plainly.

The Dzierzon hive has fixed top and bottom-boards, and two doors (sometimes one) on one or two sides. This hive is longer or higher than wide, according to the standard frames, which are nearly as large as the standard Langstroth frames. If side-storing of the honey is preferred, the Dzierzon hive contains 16 frames side by side in a so-called "lagerstock." On the other hand, the hive has two or more stories in a "staenderstock." All frames in this German hive hang with the shorter sides above and below. Most of the German bee-keepers are of the opinion that bees winter better, especially outdoors, by the use of frames in which the bees may have their winter stores above the cluster.—C. J. H. GRAVENHORST, editor of the Deutsche Illustrierte Bienenzeitung.

#### A FRENCH TRIBUTE.

Francis Huber, my fellow-countryman, prepared the way by discovering the secrets of the habits of bees; and, fifty years later, Langstroth, in the United States, and Dzierzon and Berlepsch in Germany, crowned those efforts by giving to apiculturists systems of hives which have revolutionized the keeping of bees. But the manner in which the American inventor solved the problem of movable frames and the inspection of colonies, caused it to surpass the German method; and it is his hives and methods which have been adopted in the greatest number of countries, and which give the most brilliant results. I have, for my part, experimented with both systems; and, without contesting certain merits in the Berlepsch model, I give the preference to the American hive, with loose bottom, and stores above.

But it is not alone for his useful invention that the memory of our great Langstroth deserves to be handed down to posterity. He has written an admirable book in which the elevation of the thoughts equal the extent of the writer's erudition as well as the richness of his observations, and which will remain the masterpiece of apicultural literature. Thanks to Mr. Dadant's translation, of which I am preparing a second edition, this work is now known to French-speaking apiculturists; and it has been produced in Russian through the labors of Mr. Kandratieff.—EDWARD BERTRAND, editor of *Revue Internationale*.

#### A CANADIAN HONOR.

As a Canadian I am proud and glad that the last public tribute of respect and honor was paid to him, not only on our soil, but amid the classic surroundings of our educational department, where so many busts of departed greatness in literary and philanthropic walks of life are gathered; and I shall take pleasure in moving, at the next meeting of the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association, that permission be sought from the government to add a bust of Langstroth to the collection. I feel sure that permission will be readily granted.—W. F. CLARKE, formerly editor of the *American Bee Journal*.

#### A SUBSTANTIAL ENGLISH CONTRIBUTION.

At a banquet in London, given in honor of the American representative to the bee-conventions of Europe, a toast was proposed to the Rev. L. L. Langstroth for his apicultural inventions and genius. Being called upon to respond to the toast, I referred to the misfortune of his poverty, and immediately, in true, large-hearted English style, the whole assembly rose to its feet, cheered his name, and a good contribution was then and there made and sent to Mr. L., to cheer his heart

and clothe and feed him during the approaching winter. There were present, not only representative English and Scotch apiculturists, but many from Continental Europe, and among these there were four or five editors of bee-periodicals. All were of one mind, doing honor to our loved American bee-master, who has just passed through the gates of Paradise.—THOMAS G. NEWMAN, former editor of the *American Bee Journal*.

#### FRIEND AND PASTOR SPEAKS.

He had a breadth of culture and of intellect that marked him a man among men. He deserves the respect of all, not alone for his achievements along the line of bee-culture, but for his general ability and high character. This is the estimate of a friend who knew him in his various moods, and never found him other but true and lovable.—REV. W. F. McCauley, Mr. Langstroth's pastor.

#### HIS WORK WELL DONE.

To-day we know positively that Mr. Langstroth was the inventor of the first practical movable-frame bee-hive. The German top-bar hive, with combs fastened to the side, was a previous invention, as was the close-fitting frame of Major Munn; but neither of these was known to him previous to his own invention, and each was as inferior to his as is the sickle to the self-binder. Mr. Langstroth had the vision to see a great need, and the genius to supply it; and in so doing he shared the honor and glory of very few men—that of revolutionizing a great industry, and changing entirely its methods. He did more than this; he did his work so well, that, though nearly fifty years have rolled by, yet no one has been able in all that time to improve upon his invention in any essential particular. What a compliment to him, that his hive, essentially as it was given to the world half a century ago, is to-day the hive of nearly all our brightest and most successful bee-keepers! No one can gainsay the fact, no one can deny the glory of such an accomplishment. I cannot find a parallel case in all the history of inventions.—PROF. A. J. COOK.

#### "ONLY THE WAY HE SPOKE."

Talking about being able to hear some voices much easier than others that might be of a higher pitch, he told me of an incident of a deaf woman he was once in his ministry called upon to pray with. He said he had a very strong voice, and that he knelt down close by the side of the woman, and spoke slowly and distinctly; and when he was through, the woman declared that it was the first prayer she had heard in many years; that it was almost miraculous, and she thought her hearing was returning. But he told her no; it was only the way he spoke.—THADDEUS SMITH.

#### HIS MESSAGE TO THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

And when he found that it was my official duty to visit all the Sunday-schools in the township in which I live, he, with warm animation, said: "I have a message I want you to take to the boys and girls as you visit your schools: First of all, impress upon their tender hearts, that the Bible is the *very* word of God—the infallible, immutable word of God; that it is the very voice of the Holy Spirit speaking to our hearts. Then you can show them the necessity of committing largely of that word to memory. Tell them that they can easily do this when young, and that what they learn when young will stay by them: but what is learned when old is soon forgotten and lost."—S. T. PETTIT.

#### Proper Spacing of Frames.

In spacing between frames the way the top-bars are now cut by manufacturers of bee-supplies, if spaced  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inches from center of top-bar, it leaves a plump  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch between the top-bars, which I think is right. The space between the lower chamber or brood-nest and the upper or surplus chamber should be a little more than  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch. If we could always maintain a plump  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch here, I would like that the best, but as the bodies will shrink a little, in a very dry time, the space has to be made to allow for shrinkage. If after shrinking it would stay that way, it would be all right, but it will swell again in a wet time, so that it is impossible to maintain the space between the lower and the upper chamber just right, but perhaps near enough for practical purposes.—J. W. ROUSE, in *Progressive Bee-Keeper*.

☞ Bee-keeping is a science, having for its object the attainment of a correct knowledge of all that pertains to the habits and instincts of these wonderful insects; and a practical art which regards all the attainments thus made as the only reliable basis of successful bee-culture.—NEWMAN.

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**HENRY ALLEY,**

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## PERSONAL MENTION.

**MR. HARRY LATHROP**, of Browntown, Wis., reports, in a recent issue of Gleanings, a pleasant visit among bee-keepers in the basswood region of southern Wisconsin. He refers to visiting a web-footed community in a place called Goose Creek, where a preacher by the name of Gander used to preach to the families of Drakes and Goslins. Quack! Quack!

**MR. H. M. ORR**, of California, has been in Chicago recently, having brought a carload of honey with him. Mr. Orr is one of the few bee-supply dealers and manufacturers on the Pacific Coast. He is also interested in the fruit packing and shipping business. If he is a fair sample of the California bee-keepers, they are a pushing, wide-awake kind of people, with whom it is a pleasure to meet.

**MR. S. J. BALDWIN**, of England, who has been spending the past few months in the United States, expected to sail for home Jan. 4. He reports that his health has greatly improved by his visit in this country, and that he feels better and happier than when he left his home, last September. He was able to "take in" the Atlanta Exposition, though not so fortunate as to be present at the recent International Bee-Keepers' Congress that was held there.

**MISS MATHILDA CANDLER**, of Cassville, Wis., made us a very pleasant call lately. She is a successful bee-keeper of about six years' experience, having had some 80 colonies the past year, but reduced them in the fall to 54. Her average per colony, in 1894, was about 120 pounds of comb honey, and in 1895 about 60. Miss Candler is spending a few months in Chicago studying, this winter, and in the spring will return to her bees and again take up the work with them for another season.

**MRS. W. E. CLARK**, of Bloomington, Calif., is, what Rambler says in Gleanings, "one of these quiet, effective workers" they have out near the Golden Gate. She manages the apiary until the honey is ready to case, when Mr. Clark is called on to "exercise his lifting talent." "From 80 colonies, spring count, which have been increased to 120, Mrs. Clark extracted a carload, or nearly 12 tons of honey" the past season. Surely, Mr. Clark should appreciate such a "sweet" wife!

"A POOR EXCUSE is better than none," 'tis often said. But the latest is given in Gleanings, where Editor Root says he is requested "to say, that, owing to a bronchial trouble, caused largely by the 'breathing in of the odor of the bees, and their poison,' the publisher of a periodical that was to improve our degenerated bee-literature, 'has been obliged to suspend the publication of his paper.'" One of our correspondents, in referring to this in a private letter, wrote thus:

"Alas for the elevation of bee-literature! He must have been wintering his bees under his office, and the fumes of poison came up so strongly that it strangled the poor little paper!"

Concerning the departed so-called bee-paper, Father Langstroth has been reported to have said this, when attending the Toronto convention last September: "It contains more vigor, force and truth than all the other journals." If he uttered those words, all we can say is, that it is the only thing so far reported since that convention that leads us to think he was again suffering from a very severe attack of his old "head-trouble" at that time. We don't believe Father L. had been physically or mentally able to read the bee-papers sufficiently close the past two years, to be a competent judge in the matter. Surely his quoted sentence proves this.



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## General Items.

### Apiary Near a Railroad.

On page 794 the question is asked whether it would be good policy to locate an apiary near a railroad. I located my apiary here in Chippewa Falls, in 1888, and have had from 50 to 100 colonies ever since (7 years) within 125 feet of the Wisconsin Central, Northern Pacific, and Milwaukee and St. Paul railroads, whose heaviest freights, limited passenger coaches, and fast cattle trains are passing all the time, night and day; and although I have watched very closely, in winter especially, when the ground trembles, still I have never been able to see any disturbance or notice taken of it. I am satisfied that no harm has ever been done my bees by passing trains.

E. A. MORGAN.

Chippewa Falls, Wis., Dec. 15, 1895.

### Non-Swarming Bees—Fair Season.

There has been a good deal said lately both for and against the breeding of a strain of non-swarming bees. Well, I won't say whether it would be better to have such or not; but this I do know, that I have not had a swarm for the last six years; but the reason for that (at least I think so) is, I use a fairly large hive, 12x12x18 inches, inside measure, and by putting on the super at the proper time I have been successful in keeping down swarming. If I want increase, I divide.

My bees did fairly well the first part of the past season, but dry weather cut the crop short. My average was 50 pounds per colony. But on account of later rains they gathered enough for winter.

JNO. MCKIMMIE.

Niagara, Ont., Dec. 16, 1895.

### Poor Season—Likes Hybrid Bees.

My bees are in the cellar in apparently good condition. The past was a very poor season for bees here. In the fall of 1894 I placed 57 colonies in the cellar, and took 56 out alive last April. They dwindled down to 52 at the commencement of the honey harvest. I had one prime swarm issue, but still they decreased to 51 colonies for winter. My report for 1895 is as follows: From 52 colonies at the commencement of the harvest, I took about 600 pounds of honey, mostly extracted, and had 51 colonies for winter. Friday, Nov. 29, the bees had a good flight, and Saturday, Nov. 30, they were put into the cellar, and appeared to be in good condition. I like the hybrid bees. My best hybrid colony stored 105 pounds of surplus extracted honey this year.

CHAS. B. ALLEN.

Central Square, N. Y., Dec. 3, 1895.

### Breeding Out the Swarming Habit.

I have read a good deal about "breeding out the swarming habit." I hardly think it would be any more desirable than swarming out the breeding habit in the human or animal races. Doubtless it would be an advantage to the world could we do this in degenerates of the races, but there is always "the survival of the fittest" to counterbalance a too great increase of scrubs.

I think controlling swarming the only remedy, and that with every precaution sometimes fails. By having queens clipped, tends to discourage swarming. Worker foundation (full sheets) in brood-frames reduces drone-production to a minimum, and careful examination of frames, removing queen-cells and dividing the colonies at the commencement of active breeding, will to a great extent prevent swarming. I believe if the queen is given to a nucleus, and a new tested, clipped queen purchased from a reliable queen-rearers given to the old

colony, not once in a hundred times will either of them cast a swarm.

I omitted to say, put the nucleus on the old stand, with the original number of the hive. I would advise numbering with movable tags, by keeping the old number with the queen; and by keeping a regular hive diary you always know the age of the queen, and you can easily tell when it will be best to supersede her.

Those who keep bees for honey will find it profitable to buy from regular queen-rearers instead of losing about four weeks in securing a fertile queen, and then possibly, however good the original stock, the chances are she may have mated with a mongrel, and the honey season will be past, and no surplus, and a necessity of feeding the colony for winter stores.

As to clipping queens—how can it destroy their, or their offspring's, physical power? I know of a number of families at least one parent of each having lost an arm or leg by amputation; the children are as vigorous as those of other parents completely limbed. In one family of my acquaintance, both parents are deaf and dumb; they have two bright little girls who can laugh and talk as well as other children of their age. The parents lost their faculties in their youth—not after becoming mature, as in the case of queens.

B. F. ONDERDONK.

Mountain View, N. J., Nov. 20.

### An Experience in Selling Honey.

The editor's remarks on "Selling Honey on Commission," on page 764, sounds like a "fish story." Several years ago I sent a Chicago firm some honey from Waverly, N. Y. In a few days they wrote me that the honey was in bad condition—broken, and running all over the room. I sent a dollar or two to the then editor of the American Bee Journal, and asked him to look the matter up. He kindly sent a man there, and his report was much the same as theirs. I wrote them to close it out at once.

After two or three months they made returns for it, and, very strange to say, I was well satisfied; the weight was about what it was when it left Waverly. How could that be, if the honey run so badly? If they had only reported about 3/4 of the weight, I should have believed all. As it was, I think they keep broken honey on hand all the time to work a game on shippers. Well, they returned me about half-price. I lost about \$20. I started to collect of the express company, but it sold out just about that time, and after I got the "returns," I was satisfied my honey was not broken.

Lockwood, N. Y.

J. H. ANDRE.

### Preparing for Apiary Thieves.

On page 739, this question is asked: "What method would you take to catch a thief that felt free to visit your apiary and slip out a comb here and there when you were absent from home?"—PARSONAGE APIARY.

Thieves are, as a rule, a very hard set of critters to catch, but if they are like the ones we have in this section, perhaps I can assist the "Rev." gentleman. I have lost very heavily this season by thieves, but I have found a remedy. In the first place, I set my bees in a square of about 1/4 acre, one side facing my home; and on the four corners I set up posts about four feet from the line, and eight feet high; then run a heavy wire on the top of the posts around three sides of the enclosure. On the three sides I put rings on the wire, and fastened a vicious dog, so the dog was tied and still could guard one side of the apiary. On the other two sides ditto. Then I kept a good dog at the house, so I am practically safe.

Some people may object to so many dogs of that character, and a thief, but between two evils always choose the lesser.

Now, for the benefit of the thief, I will give my experience with weak colonies. Last fall I had a late swarm; I had no honey to spare, and was taken sick, so I did not see them until Nov. 1, and at that time

## WINTRY WEATHER WEAKENS

the system, lowers the vitality, and decreases the power of resistance against colds and chills. Many people are feeling weak and shivery just now. They complain of cold hands and feet. Their blood doesn't circulate properly; the raw, bleak air seems to go right through them. Others feel worn out, and lack vigor. They are bilious, nervous, have backaches, headaches, and a pale, sallow complexion. All these symptoms indicate that the liver and kidneys are out of order. Feeble circulation of the blood shows that the system is in a very low condition. People who feel like this are facing some dangers they little suspect.

## LOOK OUT

for pneumonia, influenza, or some other dangerous complaint when you are in this state!

If you have any of these symptoms, and are not feeling as well as you ought to feel, do not wait until you are laid up with a serious illness. Act at once. Take something that will build up the system, put the blood in healthful motion, and act on the liver and kidneys. Prevention is better than cure.

There is only one way to get well. There is only one remedy that can make you well. The remedy you need is Warner's Safe Cure which is recommended and prescribed by physicians throughout the world. This great remedy contains the vital principle essential to the maintenance of health and strength. It increases the muscular energy, fortifies the system and builds up every part of the body. It has never been equaled as a cure for liver and kidney complaint, bladder trouble or Bright's disease. It is the great standard remedy, the best remedy, the most reliable remedy known to medical science. Every one who has ever tried it, believes in it.

If your health needs attention, do not experiment with inferior remedies. It is cheaper and wiser to take a remedy that has earned a world-wide reputation, which has stood the test of years, and has proved, in millions of cases, that it can always be depended upon to relieve and cure.

### IF YOU WANT THE BEE-BOOK

That covers the whole Apicultural Field more completely than any other published, send \$1.25 to Prof. A. J. Cook, Claremont, Calif., for his

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Liberal Discounts to the Trade.

### The Rural Kansan

Is an Agricultural Journal for the busy farmer. It embraces Bee-Keeping and every department of industry connected with the farm. 30 cts. a year, monthly. Sample Free.

A Full Line of **Higginsville Bee-Supplies** on hand.

CATALOGUE FREE.

**HENRY L. MILLER,**

355 Shawnee Ave.,

TOPEKA, KAN.

1A13t Mention the American Bee Journal.

there was no stores for them, so I put a feeder on top—a common box-feeder—and packed them down in leaves. I put about 12 inches of leaves on top of the feeder, and packed the sides the same as I did for winter. Then I fed sugar syrup till the first of the year, then on each warm day I fed warm syrup, and, as a result, in the spring that was my strongest colony, and the first to swarm. So, my dear brother, never be tempted to steal what a little care can give you.

I hope that our unfortunate brother may read this letter and profit thereby.

Tarentum, Pa. E. C. CULBERT.

### A Young Bee-Keeper's Report.

I have been keeping bees for three years in frame hives. This has been a hard year here for bees, and also for their keepers. I had to feed for winter stores. I have 14 colonies in fair condition. I got a warranted queen from a Missouri breeder, and she is a beauty, but what robbers, stingers, and swarmers they are!

The old American Bee Journal is a friend indeed. I am glad that the editor gives the boys a chance. I am one of them.

J. W. HOLDER.

Hebbertsburgh, Tenn., Nov. 26, 1895.

### The Season in New Hampshire.

Bees in this locality did fairly well the first part of the season. They built up well in the spring, and gave a good increase. The latter part of the season they barely held their own, so we had to feed for winter.

In preparing my bees for winter, I reduced 43 colonies to 25, by uniting. I fed sugar syrup till each colony had 30 pounds of stores. Those that were not in chaff hives I put into outer cases packed with planer shavings. I put a thick porous cushion over the frames. I leave the entrance open, shading it with a board leaning against the hive, removing it whenever it is warm enough for the bees to fly. My bees, prepared in this way, have wintered without loss the last three or four winters.

J. P. SMITH.

Sunapee, N. H., Dec. 5, 1895.

### Only the Second Poor Crop Year.

I cannot well do without the American Bee Journal. I have kept bees here since 1878, and this is my second year to fail of getting a good crop. I lost 15 colonies last winter, by freezing and starving, although they had plenty of stores. My 30 colonies remaining, increased to 60, but gave only 400 pounds of surplus honey. The asters failed to bloom in September as usual; they always give us a large amount of honey. There are about 400 colonies of bees in our immediate vicinity, 250 of which have sprung from my stock, as I am always trying to get my friends "into trouble" by getting them to keep bees, and I have had fair success in that direction, for this year we are all in the same fix—very little honey. But I console myself by knowing that I have done some good and have gotten persons to keep bees and eat honey who always claimed they had no use for either. Success to the Bee Journal for the year 1896!

C. A. HAINES.

East St. Louis, Ill., Dec. 16, 1895.

Please Send Us the Names of your neighbors who keep bees, and we will send them sample copies of the BEE JOURNAL. Then please call upon them and get them to subscribe with you, and secure some of the premiums we offer.

**Dr. P. C. Gress**, of Atchinson, Kans., would like to communicate, confidentially, with all persons who have consigned honey to C. R. Horrie & Co., of Chicago, Ill., with unsatisfactory results.

## \$3.00 Worth for \$2.00 !

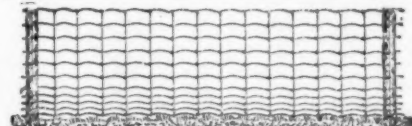
Until further notice, we propose to give you a chance to get some good reading-matter for the long winter evenings, at half price.

Send us \$2.00, and we will mail you your choice of \$2.00 worth of the following booklets, and also credit your subscription to the American Bee Journal for one year:

Poultry for Market and Profit.....	25c
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Bee-Pasturage a Necessity.....	10c
Hive Use, by Doolittle.....	5c
Foul Brood, by Dr. Howard.....	25c
Foul Brood, by Kohnke.....	25c
Foul Brood, by Cheshire.....	10c
Bee-Keeping for Profit, by Dr. Tinker.....	25c
Kendall's Horse-Book—Eng. or German.....	25c
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### None So Blind as Those Who Will Not See!

Said a fence maker to a wire maker, "Of course that 'spring steel' in the 'Page' is all bosh." "Don't fool yourself," said the W. M. "We make train loads of Page wire and we couldn't give them the wire we sell you."

PAGE WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., Adrian, Mich.

Mention the American Bee Journal.

### Convention Notices.

**WISCONSIN.**—The annual meeting of the Wisconsin State Bee-Keepers' Association will be held Thursday and Friday, Feb. 6 and 7, 1896, in the capitol building at Madison. The program will appear in due time.  
Platteville, Wis. N. E. FRANCE, Sec.

**EAST TENNESSEE.**—The Southern East Tennessee Bee-Keepers' Association will hold a special meeting at Cookson's Creek, on Saturday, Jan. 11, 1896, beginning at 9 a.m. An interesting time is expected. All are invited to attend, and especially those interested in apiculture.  
Fetters, Tenn. W. J. COPELAND, Sec.

The Special Meeting of the Illinois State Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in Chicago, at the New Briggs House, northeast corner of Randolph St. and Fifth Ave., on Thursday and Friday, Jan. 9 and 10, 1896—the week of the National Cycle Show—when excursion rates will be given on the certificate plan—for 1½ fare for the round trip. Certificate must be secured at the starting point, or no reduction will be granted on return. Before return ticket is secured, certificate must be signed by the Secretary of the Cycle Exhibition Company, and vided by the joint agent of the railway lines, whose offices will be in the Exhibition Building. Tickets to Chicago may be purchased (and certificate taken), on any day between Jan. 1 and 11, and the return trip commenced on any day between Jan. 4 and 15. Chicago hotel rates are 75 cents each, per night, two in a room; \$1.00 if one in a room. Meals extra—pay for what you order, or go elsewhere for meals, if preferred.  
Bradfordton, Ill. JAS. A. STONE, Sec.

**The Wooden Hen** is the title of a small pamphlet issued by Geo. H. Stahl, of Quincy, Ill., which describes what he calls "something new and novel for the boys." Of course, it is in the line of incubators, which he manufactures. Send your name and address to him for a copy of the pamphlet. His advertisement you will find in this number of the Bee Journal.



## Honey &amp; Beeswax Market Quotations.

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 10.—White clover and Linden, in 1-pound sections, sells at 44@15c., but other kinds of white honey sell at 12@13c.; dark and amber grades, 9@10c., of which there is a very liberal supply. Extracted, white, 5½@7c.; amber, 4½@5c.; dark, 4@5c., difference in price of each grade being in accord with its quality, fine flavor always being at a premium. Beeswax, 28@30c., and selling upon arrival. R. A. B. & Co.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, Dec. 20.—Demand for comb and extracted honey is fair only. We quote: Comb honey, 12@14c. for best white, in the jobbing way. Extracted, 4@7c. Beeswax is in good demand at 22@27c. for good to choice yellow. C. F. M. & S.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Dec. 18.—The market on comb and extracted honey is a little dull at the present time, and we do not expect to have a very great demand until after the holidays. Then we may look for a little better sale, but the bulk of trade is done for the season. That is for comb honey; extracted we expect quite a sale of after Feb. 1, 1896. We quote: Fancy clover, 1-lbs., 15@16c.; white clover, 13@14c.; fair white, 11@12c.; buckwheat, 9@9½c. Extracted clover, 6@6½c.; basswood, 6½@7c.; buckwheat, 5c. Beeswax firm and in good demand at 29@32c. C. I. & B.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 21.—The demand for comb and extracted honey is fair. We quote: No. 1 white, 1-lbs., 13@14c.; No. 2, 12@13c.; No. 1 amber, 12@13c.; No. 2, 8@10c. Extracted, white, 6@6½c.; amber, 5@5½c.; Southern, 4@4½c. Beeswax, 22@25c. C. C. C. & Co.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 9.—Honey has steadily advanced in this market. Comb honey sells quickly and pure white clover extracted sells on sight. We quote: Fancy comb, 16½c.; choice, 14@15c.; dark, 10@11c. Extracted, 5@6c.; Western white clover, 10c. Beeswax finds immediate sale on arrival at 30c. W. A. S.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Dec. 9.—We have a fairly good demand for white comb honey at 12@15c., according to quality and style of package. While the market is well cleaned up of glassed sections and paste-board cartons, unglazed is plentiful, having just received two more big cars from California. Buckwheat comb is very dull, with a plentiful supply. We quote 9@10c., but to effect sales on quantity lots, we find it necessary to shade quotations. Considering the limited outlet and large stocks on the market, we would not encourage shipping of buckwheat honey for the near future, as we could not render returns in reasonable time. The market on extracted is quiet at unchanged prices. No demand for buckwheat as yet. Beeswax is scarce and selling at 29@31c., according to quality. H. B. & S.

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 9.—Our honey market is in good shape, although prices, like on most all products, are not high; but receipts are lighter than last year, and there is a good, steady demand, with a real scarcity of white honey. We quote: White clover, 15@16c.; mixed clover, 12@14c.; dark clover, 9@11c. Extracted, white, 6½@7c.; mixed, 5½@6c.; dark, 5@5½c. H. R. W.

## List of Honey and Beeswax Dealers.

Most of whom Quote in this Journal.

## Chicago, Ills.

J. A. LAMON, 43 South Water St.  
R. A. BURNETT & Co., 163 South Water Street.

## New York, N. Y.

F. I. SAGE & SON, 183 Reade Street.  
HILDRETH BROS. & SEGELKEN,  
120 & 122 West Broadway.  
CHAS. ISRAEL & BROS., 486 Canal St.

## Kansas City, Mo.

C. C. CLEMOMS & Co., 423 Walnut St.

## Buffalo, N. Y.

BATTERSON & Co., 167 & 169 Scott St.

## Hamilton, Ills.

CHAS. DADANT & SON.

## Philadelphia, Pa.

WM. A. SELSER, 10 Vine St.

## Cincinnati, Ohio.

C. F. MUTH & SON, cor. Freeman & Central avs.

## Question-Box.

In the multitude of counsellors there is safety.—Prov. 11-14.

## Percolated vs. Boiled Syrup for Feeding Bees.

Query 2.—Of late a good deal has been said about feeding bees sugar and water, equal quantities (for winter stores or to keep them from starving), by means of the crock-and-plate method or some kind of percolating feeder. Do you think this is better or worse than the plan of boiling syrup to feed?—MIXN.

P. H. Elwood—Worse, much worse.

Dr. C. C. Miller—Ever so much better.

W. R. Graham—I think this all-sufficient.

Mrs. L. Harrison—I never tried "percolating."

Jas. A. Stone—I cannot tell, for I have never tried it.

R. L. Taylor—Worse. There is too much fussing and remains of sugar.

I have not done any feeding for five years, so I have not tried the percolating process.

Dr. J. P. H. Brown—I don't know that it is any "better or worse"—It is as good—with less bother.

E. France—When we feed sugar we make syrup by boiling. I have never tried any other way.

J. M. Hambaugh—I have never fed boiled syrup to bees, hence I am not authority as to the best.

W. G. Larrabee—I have never tried the percolating feeder, but my opinion is that it is just as good.

Rev. E. T. Abbott—I do not know. I do not feed that way. If I did, I should prefer to heat the syrup.

Eugene Secor—I have not tried it. Fortunately my bees have always been able to "board themselves."

H. D. Cutting—When I have occasion to feed, I pour boiling water on sugar, and feed with a good feeder.

B. Taylor—I do not know. I know cooking the feed works well. I don't know but the cold-water method is equally good.

C. H. Dibbern—When it becomes necessary to feed for winter stores, it is less trouble to prepare the food in the manner described, and all danger of scorching, etc., is obviated.

Mrs. J. N. Heater—I have never tried the cold sugar and water plan, but I think the tendency for such feed to harden in the cells would be much greater than if cooked.

Rev. M. Mahin—I have had no experience in feeding bees in the way indicated in the question, and am not prepared to answer; but I think I would prefer "the good old way."

Prof. A. J. Cook—I think it the best plan I have ever tried in case I wish to feed sugar. If we wish to feed honey, I prefer the White feeder, as described in my "Bee-Keepers' Guide," only I now use it the full size of the top of the hive.

Allen Pringle—I have had no experience with the "crock-and-plate" method, and but very little with any other method of sugar-syrup feeding. Don't

believe in it. I prefer to winter my bees on honey, for various reasons; and to give them so much in the fall that they will, as a rule, have plenty in the spring, and with good queens, and no "stimulative feeding."

J. E. Pond—Having never tried this plan of feeding, I am not competent to speak as to its value. It is a new matter, comparatively, and I question whether it has been tested sufficiently as yet, for any one to give a valuable opinion.

J. A. Green—When the season and weather will permit, I prefer to feed a syrup made by stirring sugar into cold water. When it is necessary to feed a thicker syrup—as when feeding for winter stores late in the fall—I make it by boiling.

G. W. Demaree—Don't waste time with sour "percolating" traps. Make your syrup with sugar and hot water (sugar is already cooked); make it rather thin, and let it set in a warm room for a day or so before feeding. Or, what is the easiest way of feeding bees, make soft candy, by mixing soft coffee A sugar with melted honey; pack in a shallow box, and when the candy has stood long enough to "set," turn it over a hole in the quilt and cover up warm.

**DO YOU WASH DISHES?**

No need of it. The Faultless Quaker will do it for you and save time, hands, dishes, money, and patience; no scalded hands, broken or chipped dishes, no moss. Washes, rinses, dries and polishes quickly. Made of best material, lasts a lifetime. Sell at eight. Agents, women or men of honor desiring employment may have paying business by writing now for descriptive circulars and terms to agents.

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**MUTH'S HONEY EXTRACTOR**  
PERFECTION  
Cold-Blast Smokers,  
Square Glass Honey Jars, Etc.

For Circulars, apply to CHAS. F. MUTH & SON, Cor. Freeman & Central Aves., Cincinnati, O. Send 10c for Practical Hints to Bee-Keepers.

## Getting Ready For 1896!

We are now prepared to furnish in any quantity, at the very lowest prices—EXTRACTORS, SMOKERS, and EVERYTHING used by the wide-awake bee-keeper. We shall continue to make our FALCON POLISHED SECTIONS, which are yet unequalled. If you've never used any of our Goods it is time for you to do so. They are acknowledged to be unsurpassed by any other make. Our large new Catalogue will be out early in the year. Anything you want now? Write to us. Goods and Prices guaranteed to be satisfactory.

Address,  
**THE W. T. FALCONER MFG. CO.,**  
JAMESTOWN, N. Y.

### Handy Cobbler \$2.00

Family Shoe Repair Kit. 28 Articles  
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38 articles, worth singly \$6.70.

Sent by Express or Freight, Ills.

Catalogue free. Agents wanted.

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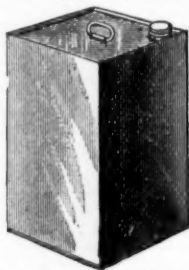
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NEW LONDON, WIS.

Fine Basswood, White Sage or Alfalfa

## EXTRACTED HONEY

—For Sale.—

We have made arrangements whereby we furnish California White Sage or Alfalfa Extracted Honey, in 60-pound tin cans, on board cars in Chicago, at these prices: 1 can,



In a case, 8½ cents per pound; 2 cans in one case, 8 cents; 4 cans (2 cases) or more, 7½ cents.

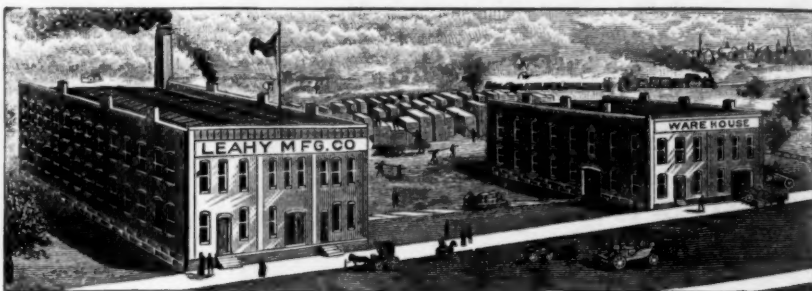
The Basswood Honey is all in kegs holding 170 pounds, net. It is a very superior quality, and the prices are: 1 keg, 8½ cents per pound; 2 kegs or more, 8 cents.

Cash MUST accompany each order.

A sample of either kind of honey will be mailed to an intending purchaser, for 10 cents, to cover postage, packing, etc. We guarantee purity, and that what we ship will be equal to sample.

Now it seems to us that here is a splendid chance for any bee-keeper to supply his home demand after his own crop is all sold. Or, why not begin now to create a local honey-trade? Order one 60-pound can first, and start out among your neighbors and friends, and see what you can do. You ought to get at least 15 cents per pound in 5-pound lots, or 50 cents for 3 pounds. Some may be able to do even better than that, though we think that enough ought to be sold at these prices to make a fairly paying business out of it. Give it a good trial. Push it. It may grow into a nice winter's work for you.

**GEORGE W. YORK & CO.,**  
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COMPLETE STOCK.  
Good Supplies and Low Prices  
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Dear Sirs:—The Sections came duly to hand. Indeed, they are very nice. Yes, sir; they are as good as the best. CHARLES H. THIES, Steeleville, Illinois.

Leahy Mfg. Co.:—I have received the bill of goods. I must say they are the choicest lot of Hive-Stuff I have ever received from any place. I admire the smoothness of your work, and your close selection of lumber. Yours very truly, O. K. OLMSTEAD, Orleans, Nebr.

Dear Sirs:—The Sections arrived in due time, and are all O. K. so far as examined. They are simply perfection. I can't see how you can furnish such goods at such low prices. I hope you may live long and do well. Yours respectfully, Z. S. WEAVER, Courtney, Tex.

Gents:—I received the "Higginsville Smoker" all O. K. It's a dandy; please find enclosed stamps for another. Yours truly, OTTO ENDERS, Oswegatche, N. Y.

Gentlemen:—I have bought Supplies from nearly all the large manufacturers by the carload, and I must say yours are as good as the best. Indeed, in many lines they are the best. It is a pleasure to handle them. E. T. FLANAGAN, Belleville, Illinois.

The above unsolicited testimonials are a fair sample of hundreds we receive.

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We are now manufacturing for each of the following parties a Carload of Supplies: E. T. Flanagan, Belleville, Illinois; Charles H. Thies, Steeleville, Illinois; J. W. Rouse & Co., Mexico, Mo.; Henry Miller, Topeka, Kans.; Fulton & Gregg, Garden City, Kans.

If you need a Carload of Supplies, or only a Bee-Smoker, write to us. Remember, we are here to serve you, and will, if you give us a chance. A Beautiful Catalogue Free.

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50A **F. C. Morrow, Wallaceburg, Ark.**  
Mention the American Bee Journal

**Poultry.**—Any one wishing to become proficient in the handling of poultry, should send 10 cents, in stamps, to Des Moines Incubator Co., Box 78, Des Moines, Iowa, for their book of Practical Poultry-Keeping.

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has no sag in full sheets. EXTRA THIN Foundation 13 square feet to the pound. Working Wax into Foundation—if sent to me—a specialty. Send for prices, samples & Catalogue. Wax wanted. **AUG. WEISS.**

2A5t **HORTONVILLE, WIS.**  
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New Product.

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A Big Success

We are pleased to announce that, having secured control of the new Weed process of manufacturing foundation for the U. S., we are prepared to furnish **Foundation by the New Process**, for 1896. Samples will be mailed free on application, and will speak for themselves.

**OUR SANDED and POLISHED SECTIONS**, well, they will speak for themselves, also.

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will be ready for distribution now in a few days. Send in your name at once for catalog, samples of the new foundation, and those superb sections, and while you are about it ask for late copy of **Gleanings in Bee-Culture**.

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